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AP/ 3679

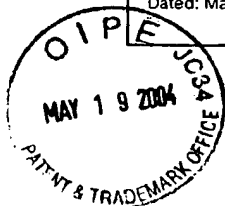
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: May 17, 2004

Signature:

Alisa M. Haggemo
Alisa M. Haggemo

AMENDMENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Bernd Halbrock et al.

Serial No.: 09/993,996

Group Art Unit: 3679

Filed: November 14, 2001

Examiner: Dunwoody, Aaron M.

For: QUICK-CONNECT DEVICE

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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GROUP 3600

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the final Office Action mailed March 18, 2004 (Paper No. 14), please amend the above identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.